

SNAPSHOT

OFFICE OF WORK & FAMILY LIFE

DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES 2ND QUARTER 2006

Recognition Special Edition!

This quarter, Snapshot will focus on recognition that has taken place within the Office of Work & Family Life. Namely, we'll take a look at the Utah Commission on Marriage's "Marriage Week" events from February; the Utah Commission for Women & Families' "Women's Achievement Awards" from March; and finally the Office of Work & Family Life's 8th annual Work/Life Awards that were celebrated in April. For the second quarter of 2006, recognition is the name of the game!

PORTRAITS: New Staff in Office of Work & Family Life



Speaking of recognition, do you recognize this member of the **Office of Work & Family Life**

team? **Ruth Quintal** joined the team in January 2006 as our new Program Specialist, working with Child Care Resource and Referral, the Child Care Professional Development Institute

(CCPDI), Quality Improvement Grants and other child care/early childhood Quality Initiatives.

Ruth comes to the office with a wealth of experience, including: Behavioral Specialist, Special Education and Early Intervention Instructor, and Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Team Chair for Summit and Salt Lake Counties. Ruth has done consultation and training for Head Start programs, Boys and Girls Clubs, school districts, and child care programs in Utah and

other states. She also has extensive experience in curriculum development, training, CDA advising, program and contract management, media relations, grant writing, and community development.

Ruth lives in Emigration Canyon with her husband, teenage sons Michael and David, and dog Glacier. She enjoys hiking, camping, wildlife photography and traveling to Alaska, Jackson Hole and other wild areas whenever she has the chance.



Also new to the team is **Rochelle Mills**, the new coordinator for the **Utah Commission for Women and Families**.

Rochelle brings

over twenty years of experience and seemingly boundless energy to the Office of Work & Family Life!

Rochelle is passionate about women's

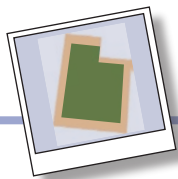
issues. She says: "This job allows me the opportunity to assist Utah women and children to be the best they can be, by utilizing my past experience, education and contacts within the community." The commission's goal is to reduce dependency on government benefits by promoting the importance of job preparation and the benefits of work and education.

Rochelle earned her associates degree in supervision, then her bachelor's degree in business management from Purdue University (where she took

some of the first women's studies courses offered anywhere). She later completed her master's degree in professional communication from Westminster College, emphasizing business and technical writing.

Along this journey, she decided to try her hand at selling Mary Kay Cosmetics, and in the next four years she earned two career cars!

Rochelle calls this her "dream job," and we are so glad to have her and her positive energy here!



FOCUS ON...

Women: Recognizing Extraordinary Utah Women



In celebration of Women's History Month, the Utah Commission for Women & Families presented the 11th Annual Utah Women's Achievement Award to seven spectacular Utah women who merit recognition for their positive contributions to the lives of women and families in Utah.

It all happened at the Governor's Mansion on March 16. The seven women honored were (pictured below, left-to-right): **Ya Liu** (honorable mention), **Christina Myers**, **Sally Keller**, **Jilene Gunther**, **Elaine Runyan-Simmons**, **Ruth Jackson** (honorary award), and **Joyce Muhlestein**.

This year, the candidate pool was outstanding. As a result, the Commission decided that all nominees would be

honored at the gala luncheon. Notable Utah woman, Shelley Osterloh, conducted the event. The awards were presented by First Lady Mary Kaye Huntsman.

Piano music for the event was provided by the award-winning students of Ya Liu. These young musicians were incredible! In addition, docents from the Utah Heritage Foundation provided historical tours of the Governor's Mansion.

You can find out more about the award winners, or about women's issues in general, by visiting www.families.utah.gov/awards, or by calling Rochelle Mills of the Utah Commission for Women & Families, at (801) 526-9322.



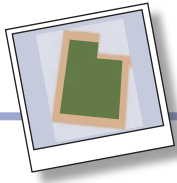
The seven winners of this year's Women's Achievement Awards.

DEVELOPING...



Next issue, 2006 third quarter edition:

- ➔ Look for a detailed summary of the Afterschool Needs Assessment Study
- ➔ Check out a portrait of another Office of Work & Family Life team member
- ➔ And more!



FOCUS ON...

Work/Life: Recognizing Extraordinary Utah Workplaces



On April 18th, hundreds gathered in the grand ballroom at the downtown Hilton in Salt Lake City for the 2006 Work/Life Awards Celebration. CEOs and employees from 23 Utah companies were honored as either runners up or winners. The DWS Executive team attended, and DWS Executive Director Tani Downing introduced Lieutenant Governor Gary R. Herbert, who presented the awards to this year's winners. Keynote speakers were Rhett Roberts of winning company Redmond, as well as Sue Johnson of winner Futura Industries, whose presentation was pre-recorded on DVD (she had a family commitment—what a perfect testament to finding work/life balance solutions!)

Awards Celebration is my favorite time of year! It's the time we get to recognize and honor these wonderful companies for being the best in our state in the area of work/life leadership."

The CEOs of winning companies took home a special framed award certificate, as well as a custom-designed company document that they can use as promotional material to enhance recruitment. But the best thing they took home was the pride and satisfaction of being one of Utah's Best Places to Work™.

Office of Work & Family Life Director Lynette Rasmussen, who created the award and has spearheaded it for each of its successful eight years, said of the event, "The Work/Life

For a list of winning companies, visit jobs.utah.gov/edo/press/2006/032306.asp.



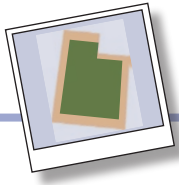
Lt. Governor Gary R. Herbert (front, center), DWS Executive Director Tani Downing (second from right), Office of Work & Family Life Director Lynette Rasmussen (far right), and the proud representatives of the 13 winning companies display their awards.

SNAPSHOT

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FOCUS ON...

Marriage: Recognizing Extraordinary Utah Marriages



In February, the Utah Commission on Marriage celebrated Marriage Week with a special event to honor extraordinary Utah marriages. The couples were honored at the 14th annual Utah Celebration of Marriage, which was held on February 4th in Murray. The event included workshops and keynote addresses by Dr. John M.R. & Jane Covey, and Bob & Diane Evans; as well as dancing to music by the Ken Foster Trio.

This year, couples were nominated in three categories: **Gold Medal Marriages**, **Longest Married Couples**, and **Valorous Military Marriages**.

A Gold Medal Marriage is one that is healthy and enduring, for better or worse, through thick and thin, through time and experiences, exemplifying durability, diligence, and devotion above and beyond the ordinary.

The commission also recognized Utah couples married 70 years or longer, and new this year, Valorous Military Marriages. Many married couples find themselves separated by the duties

associated with a nation at war. Yet, despite thousands of miles of separation, a military marriage can thrive and be strengthened.

All nominees, along with selected winners, received a letter of congratulation and were presented an award by Governor Jon M. Huntsman, Jr.



Governor and Mrs. Huntsman stand with Danielle Tillett (and son), whose husband Luke is deployed in Iraq.

You can find out more about marriage in Utah by visiting www.utahmarriage.org, or by calling Melanie Reese of the Utah Commission on Marriage, at (801) 526-9317.

Questions about this document?
Please email mbritton@utah.gov